

the milliwatt



The award-winning monthly publication of
The Baltimore Radio Amateur Television Society
P.O. Box 5915 Baltimore, MD 21282-5915

June, 2016

New FCC Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Deputy Chief Appointed

FCC Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) Chief Jon Wilkins has announced his intention to appoint Suzanne Tetreault as deputy bureau chief. Tetreault is currently deputy general counsel in the Office of General Counsel.

"Suzanne's legal expertise and extensive experience as a senior leader at the FCC will make her an outstanding addition to our team," Wilkins said.

The WTB develops and executes policies and procedures for the licensing of all wireless services, ranging from Amateur Radio to mobile broadband services, overseeing nearly 2 million licenses. -- *FCC News Release via ARRL*

PROGRESS ON PARITY

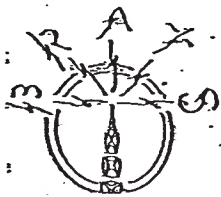
Trying to hammer out acceptable language for the Amateur Radio Parity Act hasn't been easy. But the ARRL and the organization representing homeowners associations have helped fashion an amended bill with input from congressional staffers that would permit outdoor antennas to be installed in communities with deed-restricted residential properties.

The homeowners group, called the Community Associations Institute, issued a statement expressing support for the amended language in the legislation, also known as HR 1301. And Mike Lisenco, N2YBB, the ARRL Hudson Division Director and Legislative Affairs Committee Chairman, also noted he was pleased with the agreement - but stressed that some matters still need to be worked on. Congress is expected to act on the bill sometime this year.

(ARRL, via A
ARNewsline))

Special Event Set for Queen Elizabeth's Birthday

In celebration of the 90th birthday of Queen Elizabeth II, special event station GB90QEB will be on the air from June 8 to June 13. Activity will be on SSB and digital modes on all HF bands. — *Thanks to The Daily DX*, via ARRL



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The award-winning monthly
publication of The BRATS.
Items herein may be reprinted
with appropriate credit.

Mayer D. Zimmerman, W3GXX, Editor

Some Thoughts

Here is no club meeting in June. We are preparing for the balloon project. It promises to be very interesting and enjoyable. Please plan to join us. There are not too many contests this month, but there are a few good ones. Try them and use them as preparation for field day at the end of the month. If you have never contested, try it, you will love it! 73, Mayer W3GXX

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The Baltimore Radio Amateur TV Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 5915 Baltimore, MD 21282

A non-profit organization under section 501 (c) (3)
of the Internal Revenue Code and a non-profit
corporation in the State of Maryland

Member: ARRL, Foundation for Amateur Radio

Home Page: <http://www.bratsatv.org>

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Treasurer: Jim Sherwood, KB3SKN
Chairman of the Board:
Mayer D. Zimmerman, W3GXX

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BRATS REPEATERS

Linked, WB3DZO

147.03+, 224.96-, 448.325-

Stand alone:

443.350+, 224.8-

Packet Nodes:

W3GXT=5 145.05

W3GXT-10 224.52

ATV repeaters W3WCQ

inputs: 426.25, 1253.25

Outputs: 439.25, 911.25

BRATS WEEKLY NETS

Monday 9 PM Traffic and Info

Tues. 11:45 Informal ATV

Wednes. 9 PM CATS ATV

Thurs 9 PM BRATS ATV

Sat. 1 PM Weekly News Bul

Sun 8 PM BRATS ATV net

AS Needed: Skywarn

BRATS Board of Directors

Through December, 2016:

W3MSR, K9FXY

Through December, 2017:

K2GZL, N3GXH

BRATS MEETINGS

4th Monday at 7 PM

Liberty Rd. Volunteer fire Dept.

10010 Liberty Rd. Randallstown

Date and place subject to change

Listen to the weekly News

Bulletin on 147.03/R

Saturday at 1 PM

Join us for the weekly

Traffic and info Net on

Mondays at 9PM on 147.03/R

Baltimore Radio Amateur TV Society
MINUTES of the 16 May 2016
Monthly Meeting

OryxG, K0RYX, chaired the meeting, held at Greene Turtle, Owings Mills.

/REPORTS

- Minutes: Minutes of the April meeting accepted, approved.
- Treasurer: Treasurer's report submitted and accepted.
- Repeater/Equipment: 030 transmitter is working OK. No reported issue with PL tone on north Baltimore site.
Discussed possible existence of historical documentation allowing equipment at north Baltimore site and difficulty engaging with current facilities management. KenM, K3UQQ, to pursue.

'OLD BUSINESS

- Public Service Events: **MS150 Ride**, June 4-5, Easton, MD; 3 (4?) rooms available for volunteers.
Susan G. Komen Ride, June 25 (conflicts with Field Day), South River High School. Help needed.
- Activities: **Balloon Launch**, July 16, site t.b.d. Discussed how to stabilize azimuthal view camera.
NPOTA, April 30, Ft. McHenry. Successful operation with 2 stations, 20 and 40M SSB, netted approx. 250 contacts. Established good rapport with site rangers; no issues raised. Discussed doing Ft. McHenry again this Fall.

/NEW BUSINESS

- June Meeting: there will be none. Time will be spent working on the balloon project.

/PROGRAM

none

Ted, WA3AER,
Secretary

100 Sprite 437 MHz satellites to be deployed

A radio amateur's tiny Sprite Spacecraft are planned to be shipped to the International Space Station in July.

Nature magazine reports **Zac Manchester KD2BHC** is having a second attempt at deploying about 100 Sprite spacecraft in space.

The first attempt at deployment from the CubeSat KickSat-1 in 2014 was unsuccessful. In July KickSat-2 carrying the Sprites, each fitted with their own 437 MHz transmitter, will be flown to the ISS. The CubeSat will then be deployed later in the year and KickSat-2 will in turn deploy its cargo of Sprites.

YASME FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES GRANTS, EXCELLENCE AWARDS

STEPHEN/ANCHOR: Other gifts to amateur radio - these ones benefiting young amateurs - have been announced by the not-for-profit Yasme Foundation. Three supporting grants are being given out. The Foundation for Amateur Radio is receiving support for its 2017-2018 scholarship program; the ARRL Foundation will be helped with funds for its Yasme Foundation scholarship. A third grant will assist two young hams in Ethiopia who will participate in the Youth Contesting Program in Estonia.

The Yasme Foundation is organized to support scientific and educational projects related to Amateur Radio, including DXing and the introduction and promotion of Amateur Radio in developing countries. Supporting grants were also given to other recipients to specifically support global HF operations.

The foundation also announced three recipients of its Excellence Award, which recognizes achievement in technical, organizational or operational areas: They are longtime educator Carole Perry, WB2MGP; Tim Duffy, the ARRL's Western Pennsylvania section manager; and longtime amateur radio mentor and trainer, Tom Rauch, W8JI. (YASME FOUNDATION)

BRATS MONTHLY MEETINGS

We have not yet secured a permanent site.

May meeting was scheduled for the firehouse but it took place at the Green Turtle in Owings Mills.

There is NO scheduled June meeting.

Date, time and place of the July meeting will be given on the air at our weekly news bulletin on Saturday at 1 PM on 147.03/R and on the Monday night net at 9 PM.

Hopefully also on the next month's h's Milliwatt.

Sorry for any confusion

ARRL DX BULLETIN

GANDA, 5X. Jonathan, KK7PW is QRV as 5X1O until July 8. Activity is on 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters using 5 watts. QSL via EA5GL.

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, DA.

Special event station DL0POLIO is QRV until May 31, 2017 to draw attention to the ongoing efforts to eradicate Polio.

QSL via bureau.

SAINT MARTIN, FS. John, K9EL will be QRV as FS/K9EL from Orient Bay from June 5 to 23.

Activity will be on 80 to 6 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL to home call.

JAPAN, JA. Special event station 8J2UMI is QRV from Umi Festa Higashimikawa, IOTA AS-007, until July 31. QSL via bureau.

BULGARIA, LZ. Members of the Bulgarian Radio Club Blagovestnik are QRV with special call sign LZ425STA during June to honor Bulgarian Saints. QSL via bureau.

SLOVAK REPUBLIC, OM. Special event station IOM41KYSUCE is QRV until August 31 during the 41st ARDF Championship Kysucky pohar that occurs July 29 to 31. QSL via OM3CND.

WA7BNM Contest Calendar

Jun 11	Asia Pacific Sprint, SSB
Jun 11-12	Portugal Day Contest
Jun 11-13	ARRL June VHF Contest
June 18-19	Ukrainian DX RTTY IARU Region I 50 MHz West Virginia QSO Party
June 25-26	His Majesty King of Spain ARRL FIELD DAY

BRATS MEETINGS

4th Monday at 7 PM

Liberty Rd. Volunteer fire Dept.

10010 Liberty Rd. Randallstown

Date and place subject to change

O CANADA! 150 YEARS OF CANADA!

Hams participating in the events marking Canada's sesquicentennial in 2017 have been given permission to use special call sign prefixes to mark the occasion.

For those Canadian amateurs wishing to change their prefix, VA becomes CF; VE becomes CG; VO becomes CH; and VY, CI.

The announcement was made by Radio Amateurs of Canada during the recent Dayton Hamvention. Radio Amateurs of Canada notes that use of the prefixes is optional -- but a nice way to mark 150 years, nonetheless. (RADIO AMATEURS OF CANADA) (AR Newsline)

FIELD DAY June 25

Likely to be hosted at the QTH of Steve, KAZ3MN again this year. Aero invitation still remains,

BARC VE EXAMS
Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church
905 Frederic Rd. Catonsville, MD

Registration starts at 1:30 PM.
Exams begin at 2 PM.
No one admitted after the exams begin.

Directions to the Baltimore VE Team's new exam site.

Please preregister so we can contact you in the event that the exam location site changes.

PRE-REGISTER

To pre-register by email:
info@veteaam.org

BARC MEETINGS

First Wednesday at 7 PM
Wegman's Hunt Valley
Upstairs dining room.

2016 Testing Schedule
(The date or location is subject to change;
please preregister.)

Day	Date
Saturday	June 11
Saturday	July 9
Saturday	August 6
Saturday	September 10
Saturday	October 1
Saturday	November 5
Saturday	December 3

CARA

4th Tuesday at 7:30 PM
Columbia Gateway Center
Room 401; Columbia, MD

LARC VE EXAMS

364 Main St. Laurel,
3rd Sat. at 9 AM;
John, WB3GXW,
301-572-5124

MD Mobileers VE Exams at
National Electronics Museum,
Linthicum

4th Tuesday at 6 PM
Mike, KA2JAI, 443-310-4902
KA2JAI@arrl.net

Milliwatt Swap Shop

Ads are free and get results!

Mail your ad to: BRATS, Box 5915

Baltimore, MD 21282-5915 or

email to w3gxxk@verizon.net

FOR SALE: Hustler G7-144 \$125.
HRO price \$199. N3BHE
410-299-5931

SPECIAL: ICOM BC110 battery
charger, 12vDC, 200 ma for ICOM
T8A or equivalent, cost \$46,
Make me a reasonable offer.
Mayer, w3gxxk@verizon.net

JADE COMPUTERS
1009 Ingleside Ave. Balto 21228.
443-667-4187,
joe@jadecomputers.us
web page design, hosting,
order PC ONLINE.
<http://www.jadecomputers.us>

Antique radio repair, restoration
Eric WA3TAD, audio visual service,
Retro radio, 3401 Chestnut Ave.
Balto. 21211, 410-467-3620
wa3tad@comcast.net

WANTED AC Gilbert erector sets:
Old, new, large, small, need not be
Complete. CASH PAID!
Lewis, 410-296-4874.

WANTED: Manual for MFJ 1452,
WB2LOO, gkm313@verizon.net

WANTED: YOUR AD!
Your ad would have appeared here
if you sent it to us. Send your ad to
w3gxxk@verizon.net

VTS Video Taping Service
video, DVD duplications,
Video tape transferred to DVD,
Standards, conversions...
1-877-891-1002. BRATS
member Bob Shapiro, K2MYS
<http://www.videotapingqservice.com>

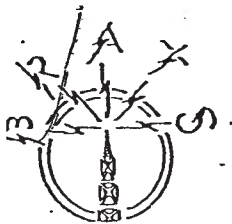
FCC Seeks Comments on Petition to Grant Lifetime Amateur Radio Licenses

The FCC is seeking comments on a *Petition for Rule Making (RM 11760)* that asks the FCC to grant lifetime Amateur Radio licenses. Mark F. Krotz, N7MK, of Mesa, Arizona, filed his request with the FCC last November. He wants the FCC to revise § 97.25 of its rules to indicate that Amateur Radio licenses are granted for the holder's lifetime, instead of for the current 10 year term. Krotz noted that the General Radiotelephone Operator License (GROL) already is issued on a lifetime basis, and he maintained that not having to renew licenses would lighten the FCC's workload.

"It would be mutually beneficial for the FCC and Amateur Radio operators to update Part 97 to grant operator licenses for lifetime, Krotz said in his filing. "The FCC would benefit by reducing administrative costs."

In 2014 the FCC granted lifetime credit for examination elements 3 and 4, but applicants seeking relicensing under that provision still must pass examination element 2.

Individuals may submit comments via the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS).



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June, 2016

Propagation Forecast Bulletin 23 ARLP023

>From Tad Cook, K7RA
Seattle, WA June 3, 2016

To all radio amateurs
SB PROP ARL ARLP023

ARLP023 Propagation de K7RA

Solar indices barely changed over the past week, with average daily sunspot numbers rising from 25.3 to 33, and average daily solar flux dropping from 97 to 87.4.

Average daily planetary A index rose from 7.1 to 8.9, and average daily mid-latitude A index rose from 7 to 9.

Predicted solar flux for the near term is 80 on June 3 to 7, 85 on June 8 to 10, 80 on June 11 to 17, 85 on June 18 to 21, 80 on June 22 to 26, 75 on June 27 through July 4, and 80 on July 5 to 14.

Predicted planetary A index is 10, 35, 32, 15 and 8 on June 3 to 7, 5 on June 8 to 10, 12 on June 11 to 13, 8 on June 14 and 15, then 5, 15 and 10 on June 16 to 18, 5 on June 19 to 22, then 10, 12, 8, 20 and 12 on June 23 to 27, 5 on June 28 and 29, then 8, 15, 20 and 15 on June 30 through July 3, then 5 on July 4 to 7 and 12 on July 8 to 10 and 8 on July 11 and 12.

F. K. Janda, OK1HH sent us his geomagnetic activity forecast for the period June 3 to 29, 2016:

Geomagnetic field will be:

Quiet on June 9, 20, 22.

Mostly Quiet on June 8, 15 to 17, 21, 23, 29.

Quiet to Unsettled on June 7, 10, 13 and 14, 28.

Quiet to Active on Jun 3 and 4, 5 and 6, 11 and 12, 19, 24 and 25, 26 and 27.

Active to Disturbed on June 18.

Increases in solar wind from coronal holes are expected on June (6-)7-8, (14-)16-17, (26, 30)

Renew: Regular \$15; retired/student/disabled \$10; Family \$20

Name _____ Call _____ e-mail _____

MAIL TO: BRATS, P.O. Box 5915; Baltimore, MD 21282-5915